

Somewhere on Kyon
15 August 1945

Dear Mom and Dad,

Well, this is it - although you heard the good news Tuesday evening we heard it here this morning. Last night there was a preliminary celebration and a number of fellows got so drunk it wasn't even funny, tonight I expect it will be as bad or maybe worse.

It is good that it is over but there is more cause to reflect than to raise hell as they seem to be doing in Fuzio. Naturally everyone is relieved and for a just reason but there is still a long road ahead that must be negotiated in the most exacting means in order that this may not happen to your grandchildren and my children, the hard willing I have any.

A number of fellows ask how can I remain so calm, it must be the way I've been constructed because I can't help but think of the many homes where there will only be an empty space where before there had been a loved one. In our celebrations we should not forget those who have given their all to this cause.

The local people have a band outside and are serenading us in the house. There won't be much accomplished here for a while. Then to add to the good news our joint quota came in and some boys are leaving for home tomorrow.